

NEBRASKA STATE QUARTER DESIGN COMMITTEE MEETING
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 1525
LINCOLN, NE
Monday, June 23, 2003 – 9:30 AM

PRESENT: Secretary Gale, Tom Bassett, Gordon Howard, Virgil Marshall,
Dr. Michael Schuyler, Norman Geske & Jodi Rave (arriving at 11 AM),
Staff member Sharon Hambek

ABSENT: Roger Bruhn

Open Meeting Notice: Secretary Gale noted there were enough members present to be sufficient for a quorum. He also stated notice of this meeting had been posted on the state's internet public meeting calendar from June 9, 2003 to June 23, 2003 in compliance with the Public Meeting Law. The agenda was also available on the web site since June 18, 2003.

Minutes & Agenda: A motion was made by Dr. Schuyler, seconded by Mr. Bassett to approve the minutes as mailed and presented. Motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Bassett, seconded by Dr. Schuyler to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. It was suggested members may want to get a three notebook to keep their information in. Sharon could three hole punch all items for their easy insertion.

Welcome: Chairman Gale welcomed Norman Geske since he had been unable to attend the first meeting.

Subcommittee Reports:

Categorization Committee: This committee has not yet met. Chairman Gale asked Mr. Marshall if he would be willing to chair this committee at least through July and get a meeting set up. It was thought that perhaps he and Roger Bruhn might share the chairmanship. Plans are to get a meeting set up prior to the next full committee meeting to categorize the designs already submitted.

Public Comment Committee: Ms. Rave and Mr. Howard met for a few minutes following the last full committee meeting. They had just general conversation about how to get information out to the public, especially to fourth grade students. No decisions or recommendations were made. Chairman Gale advised all members that Sharon would be available to assist them at any time in their subcommittees.

Administrative Committee: Please see attached report. It was explained the subcommittee had made a decision on how to reference two major events to take place in this process. That being, when the committee does the big media/school push for public participation that would be referred to as the "kick-off" event. When the committee is talking about the time the Nebraska quarter is actually released – that will be referred to as "the launch" event.

Discussion was held about some of the ideas the committee had come up with for the "kick off" and time involved for members if they were to do a "caravan"

approach. Most members liked the idea of something in the rotunda and the north steps. It was suggested the committee would also need to plan an event for students at this time, perhaps a parade around the outside of the capitol and culminating in the rotunda. It was noted the committee needs to make sure the rest of the state is involved, perhaps with some regional type concept with 4 or 5 events across the state.

A motion was made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Marshall, to direct Sharon to submit a facility use requisition to use the rotunda and/or north steps of the capitol for a “kickoff” event. Discussion was held. It was brought to the attention of the committee that a specific, or at least a couple of specific dates, would need to be included on the facility use requisition. It was agreed to by both Mr. Howard and Mr. Marshall to amend their motion to read the requisition should list either September 16, 17, 18 or 19, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding how to get some broad coverage on getting the public involved in the process. A motion was made by Mr. Bassett, seconded by Dr. Schuyler authorizing the Secretary of State’s office staff to proceed with putting together a draft of a story and to contact some appropriate state wide publications regarding the story prior to the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously. All committee members were encouraged to take part in submitting names of publications the committee might want to consider and to assist with the final story the committee would want to send out.

Mr. Howard apologized for the story about Chimney Rock that had appeared in several newspapers across the state. He intended for it to be more of a local story and did not realize AP would pick it up.

One of the members asked the question as to how the committee members should respond when someone asks what their idea is for the quarter design. It was again suggested that committee members really need to keep an open mind and to stay neutral. It was suggested everyone keep studying what other states have done, remembering there can be more than one icon on the coin but that it should not get too busy.

Governor Meeting: Sharon was asked to get an appointment for Secretary Gale to meet with the Governor and let him know the direction the committee is going and ask that he be a part of both the “kick off” and the “launch” event.

Public Voting: Some discussion was held regarding when the committee might want the public to vote on the design; whether it will be early when there are still 10 – 12 choices or later when narrowed down to the final 5 at the time for the Governor to choose.

Student Participation: The committee felt the target audience for student participation should be the fourth grade. Other students would be encouraged and welcomed to participate but a letter of invitation would go out to fourth grade teachers. It was suggested that a “banner” or “sticker” be developed to be placed on these letters

of invitation stating the enclosed information had to do with the quarter design so teachers would be sure to pay attention to them. Some suggestions were “Quarter Design Competition”, “What Would You Like on the Nebraska Quarter?” or perhaps the picture of a quarter with a question mark on one side. It was thought the packet should include a letter of invitation, a list of the parameters for the design from the U.S. Mint and the design form. It was decided a packet should also be sent to principals with a letter inviting any teacher that wants to participate to do so.

A motion was made by Dr. Schuyler, seconded by Mr. Marshall giving the Secretary of State office staff permission to draft a letter to the principals and teachers regarding their participation. Motion carried unanimously.

It was also suggested that during the Statehood Birthday Parties next February Secretary Gale should invite students to participate in the quarter design.

Cut Off Date: Discussion was held with regard to when the cut off date should be for public and/or student participation. A motion was made by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Dr. Schuyler that the cut off date should be May 1, 2004 for all designs submitted by the public. Motion carried unanimously.

Design Packets: Copies of a design packet was handed out to each committee member. Some questions were raised as to whether or not we needed a release signed stating the person submitting the design was relinquishing all rights to their design. Another question was raised as to whether or not we would need a parent or guardian’s signature for students participating. It was the consensus of the committee that the Secretary of State’s office should contact the representatives from the U. S. Mint to get their opinion on these questions.

Web Site: Secretary Gale handed out copies of the various articles that had appeared in papers across the state regarding the Quarter Design Committee. It was noted the Secretary of State’s web site address was not included in these articles. It was suggested the design form packet information be put on the web site and that every time possible the web site address should be made public. Ms. Rave said she had visited with her editors and she will be writing a column for the paper and will be sure to include the Secretary of State web site address in that column.

Recess: The committee recessed at 11:10 AM to reconvene at 11:20 AM.

Chairman Gale called the meeting back to order again at 11:25 AM with all members that were originally present in attendance at that time.

Categories & Icons Chairman Gale suggested it might be helpful for the committee to identify some major historical categories to break the designs down in. They were as follows:
1) Old West - (Pony Express, covered wagon, stagecoach, sod house, windmill)

- 2) Native American - teepee, earth lodge, peace pipe, buffalo (probably the most universal symbol of all Native American tribes in Nebraska), feather head dresses
- 3) Romantic West (Buffalo Bill Cody Show, rodeo)
- 4) Modern West - (Kearney arch, railroad & train engine, farm implements, SAC Air Base, center pivot irrigation, Capitol, Henry Doorly Zoo, etc.)
- 5) Landmarks - Chimney Rock, Platte River, Scotts Bluff, Courthouse and Jailhouse Rocks
- 6) Natural Symbols - Sandhills Crane, Meadow Lark, Golden Rod

Discussion was held with regard to getting permission to use Native American symbols. Ms. Rave stated that if it was only a symbol and no name added, then most likely no permission would be needed. If a name was added, then one should find the family descendents and get their “blessing.”

Discussion was held with regard to what Nebraska icons have ownership by a foundation or organization that perhaps the committee should find out before the process is started if they would be willing to give the U.S. Mint the unrestricted release required. The entities the committee thought of that should be contacted were as follows:

- 1) Arbor Day/Arbor Lodge
- 2) Homestead National Monument - Mark Engel
- 3) Boys and Girls Town
- 4) Scottsbluff National Monument - State Historical Society – Chimney Rock National Historic Site
- 5) Sower/Capitol – State Historical Society
- 6) SAC Air Base – STRATCOM Headquarters
- 7) Pony Express rider – Mike Bacon, Executive Director of Pony Express in Gothenburg
- 8) Beef State – Department of Economic Development

Next Meeting: It was decided the next meeting of the full committee would be held on Friday, July 18th from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Sharon will make arrangements for the meeting room and notify the committee of the exact location.

Adjournment: There being no further business; a motion by Dr. Schuyler, seconded by Mr. Bassett to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hambek
Event Coordinator